

The Middlebury Register.

Middlebury, Feb. 19, 1850.

Doings at Washington.

The joint resolution relating to the collection of the Customs, it will be seen, after several days' discussion in the House, was finally amended so as to make the appropriation for half the present fiscal year, \$1,250,000,—respending, also, the restrictions on the salaries of officers in California and Oregon, and so amended, passed on Tuesday, 10 to 103. This is far from affording the required relief to the Treasury Department—should the Senate concur—it still is a relief, and will allow the Department to return, in the main, to its former system, which is the only one, manifestly, that the country can permanently tolerate.

The vote on receiving a petition for dissolving the Union presented by Mr. Hale, is worthy of notice. It was a just rebuke to those who insultingly called upon Messrs. to violate their oath, by trampling under foot the Constitution which they had solemnly sworn to support. But there were in favor of its reception, to 55 to 2 against it.

It will be remembered that, on the 4th instant, the resolution of Mr. Root, providing for a territorial government, excluding Slavery in all the United States territories, east of the limits of California, (so the resolution was ultimately modified to read,) was laid on the table, by 30 to majority. This is regarded, in some quarters—very erroneously, certainly, although we approve the course of the Representatives from this State, in voting against the motion to lay on the table—the virtual abandonment of the Wilkes Provision. It was undoubtedly thought by those who voted to postpone this resolution, that it was ill timed—that the manner of its introduction, with the avowed object of compelling Northern members to "face the music," was intolerably overbearing and insulting—and that it was well to wait and see what *reluctancy* of action would be taken by the committees appointed by Cuba, for both wings of the Opposition are directly or indirectly responsible. It was also thought by many—and justly, too—that the recommendation of the President to wait for the presentation of State Constitutions by California and New Mexico was all things considered, the surest and most satisfactory method of settling this vexed question, in accordance with the fixed views and determination of the North. Such being the case, we do not wonder at the result of that vote, nor is it by any means—as the event will prove—an abandonment of the ground hitherto occupied by the North.

The great question of the session—the admission of California as a State—has at last been taken up by both Houses in good earnest.

The debates of the last two or three days show plainly enough where the great majority of Southern representatives will be found on this subject—that they regard it as *sursum erigere* all the North have ever asked, should that State be admitted into the Union with its present Constitution. Just so the North regard it—and we care little doubt that the free principles for which we have contended will triumphantly prevail.

The debate will undoubtedly be protracted for weeks, before a final adjustment of the question—but it is a matter of congratulation that the subject has been entered upon, and that a final settlement, at no very remote day, is inevitable.

These Free Soil papers which have attempted to cast odium on Mr. Meacham, for an alleged refusal to vote on the motion to lay Mr. Root's resolution on the table, should examine the records, before going to any great lengths in their repudiations. On *both* occasions, on which this question was voted on in the House, Mr. Meacham's name will be found among the *noes*—i.e., in favor of the resolution. The same is true of Golding's resolution, on the same day, which was also laid on the table, but not by Mr. Meacham's consent, as he promptly voted against the motion. Our authority for these statements is the *Globe*—a paper which our opponents would do well to consult, occasionally.

The NEW YORK EXPLOSION.—The following is from a business letter of a friend in New York:

"You have seen the account of the destruction of the Factory from which your new press was purchased, by the explosion of the steam boiler. The larger part of those whom Mr. Cobb and myself saw at work there were destroyed by this dreadful occurrence. Of 125 supposed to have been in the building, only about 30 or 40 escaped, and several of these are so badly injured that they will not recover. Mr. Taylor and his partner had not arrived. In a blacksmith shop under the counting room (which Mr. C. will recollect), some ten or fifteen bodies were dug out of the ruins."

Senator Phelps.—It gives us much gratification—as it will our readers—to see the following complimentary notice of our distinguished Senator, from the pen of the well-known correspondent of the *Boston Courier*:—"J. S. P."—a very judicious, discriminating, and able writer, who always "knows whereof he writes":

"The name of the Post Office at West Readings, Bennington Co., Vt., has been changed to "Hartwellville," in honor of Joseph Hartwell, the early settler of Bennington County.

"It is said that Hon. Thos. Butler King is to receive a fetege appointment.

"Another serious reverse has occurred below Algiers, (near New Orleans.) All efforts to stop it, at last, proved unavailing. Several planters were ruined.

"Mr. Beale, of Virginia, has issued an address to the people of his district. He recommends moderation on the part of the South. He is opposed to holding a convention at Nashville. Gov. McDowell entertains the same opinion.

"Prestigious orders have been given by the proper authorities at Washington, to prosecute Mr. Weston, civily and criminally, for his conduct in the speech he made, and the other still more distinguished Senator observed that there were but very few men who could make such a speech. He made point after point, hit after hit, in a quiet but most effective manner. In some parts it was a consecutive series of ten-strokes. We consider we are but subserving the cause of truth and justice in calling public attention to this speech, among the many of so little substance in value—not because of its boldness or magnificence, but because of its point and its solidity. It furnished a solid bottom for thinking men to stand on. His delivery swept away with a single torso a whole sky full of clouds, which Southern declaimers, like Mr. Cass, had been raising and accumulating for a fortnight. I do this with great cheerfulness, because I do not think Mr. Phelps (unlike some others) has any paid correspondence to do special pulling, and that he has marshaled enough to trust his reputation to take care of itself—being content to grow at his own rate in general estimation, in the different sense and no sense.

"I venture to say, if any one will undertake to read this speech, and consider, for the time being, that Mr. Webster, and not Mr. Phelps, is the author, he will find very little trouble in maintaining the illusion throughout the entire speech.

MANAGERS' MEETING.—The managers of the Addison County Agricultural Society held their meeting at the Court House, on Wednesday last. The attendance was full, and the day was industriously spent in fixing the premiums and the conditions on which they shall be awarded. The conditions were only partially completed, and the appointment of committees was not reached.

The Board adjourned, to meet again, at the same place, on Wednesday, Jan. 12.—The time of holding the Annual Fair was fixed at the 25th of September. The place was not agreed upon.

We are reluctantly compelled to defer the list of premiums until next week.

The Patriot says that Jackson, Locofoco, has been elected Representative to Congress from the 1st Georgia District—lately represented by T. B. King. Can it be that this "complete Southern, pro-Slavery" Administration is not better sustained in Georgia? That is strange. Possibly the *Patriot* is mistaken. Only eleven counties have been heard from, and there are eighteen in the district.

How S. S. Phelps.—of the U. S. Senate, and Hon. James Meacham and Wm. Hebard, of the House, have our thanks for public documents.

It is said that the free sailors contemplate holding a great anti-slavery convention at Buffalo in June next, in opposition to the southern convention.

Why not hold them both at the same time and place and have a grand pow-wow of Disunionists and Bellies? Both factions seem to be in pursuit of the same end—though, perhaps, they are frightened at the ill-starred fortune of the confederates of last year, and at the unlucky attempt to elect Hon. J. Brown, Speaker of the House. It is no doubt true that there is sometimes—in more senses than one—*policy in war.*"

Stevine.—Mr. Joseph E. Stevne, of the firm of Brown, Lawrence & Stevne, Boston, drowned himself in Bay Park, (near the Worcester Railroad crossing,) on Monday morning, the 11th inst. He had just returned from California, where he had been quite successful, and undeniably committed the fatal act in a fit of insanity—a hereditary malady in his family. Mr. S. was 31 years old. He leaves a wife.

Wm. Olason Bourne.—Esq., an able writer and scholar, who has for some time past conducted the *Northern Journal*, at Lowell, N. Y., has retired from the editorial chair—to devote himself more exclusively, to the service of the cause of temperance.

The length of Mr. Clay's speech presents an interesting picture on the Slavery question, and in opposition to the California Message of President Taylor. Friend Jones, at the commencement of this session, and each of us took your solemn oaths in the presence of God, and in the Holy Evangelist, that you would support the constitution of the United States; now, therefore, we protest against the action of your Government, which is to violate every article of the Constitution, and to overturn the Government of the United States, as you can. And, as in duty bound, we will ever pray."

Mr. Case. That's first rate.

The Advocate and Banner, for Feb. 12, contains pity articles on the Slavery question, and in opposition to the California Message of President Taylor. Friend Jones is also "down upon" for changing our name.

We dare say he has not seen our article explaining that matter. Perhaps if we send him that, he will retreat.

Q. C. RICH.

For the Register.

New Era in the Temperance Reform.—A more stringent Law called for.

To the Parents, Guardians, and Friends of the Ninety-eight Thousand Children in Vermont, who are growing up to be citizens of the State and of our common country.

The time is just at hand, when, in the eyes of the State, you will be required to choose superintendents of your schools; and we would urgently and earnestly appeal to you, on that occasion, not only to select the right kind of men for that office, but to give them such directions and encouragement as shall prompt them to the zealous, efficient and faithful discharge of their duty. Our countrymen are having abroad the office of town superintendents, and now assume a higher responsibility and importance than have hitherto belonged to it.

In the first place the duty of examining teachers will devolve solely on your town superintendents. This is a work which you, as individuals, would doubtless be reluctant to engage in, even if you possessed essentially the requisite qualifications. Besides, there is a certain tact and skill required by experience in this, no less than in any other kind of business, which you could not expect to exercise, if you were to attempt to distribute the labor of examining your teachers among various persons, each performing the service separately in his own way.

If you have a delicate piece of work to be done, apply to one who has gained skill in such work by practice. *Division of labor*,—each steadily pursuing a particular employment, and thus acquiring an ability to perform his work skilfully and well, is a characteristic of the civilized state, and the most effective mode of adapting their instructions to the different ages and capacities of children; and, generally, to ensure to them a higher and more rapid growth in a labor fraught with so many and various difficulties.

The action of the State Convention favors (under certain circumstances) the passage of such a law, as will be of service to the election of your town superintendents. But now that we are in communication with you allow us to add a few words further. When you have performed the duty already contemplated, you still are not—cannot be discharged from what it is your duty to do—*to cover every school and orphan, aged and lame child, in every town, and shew it over once or twice yearly, before using, to have it well incorporated together, the manure would be better than when it is exposed to the air and rains, besides, the tuft would be increased, and worth double that it cost up and not covered over, as is the usual practice.*

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Senate.—A majority of the members of the Convention which framed the Constitution of California were—so we see it at the *Southern States*. The whole number is given as 119, of whom 74 emigrated from the South.

The Legislature of Louisiana is now in session at Baton Rouge, the new capital.

Jenny Lind has accepted the terms offered by Mr. Bartum, to give a series of concerts in this country. She is to leave for America the last week in August, or the first week in September. The contract extends to one hundred and fifty concerts, to begin in one year, if possible, or at most in eighteen months.

The Two Worlds.—is the title of a new and beautiful literary paper, of 16 pages, octavo form, edited by John J. Bailey and Wm. Ross Wallace. The first two numbers give promise of a superior periodical, and we trust it will be amply sustained by the reading community.—Published every week, by J. L. Lockwood & Co., 100 Broadway, New York, at \$2 a year, in advance.

The Lancastrian (Ohio) Gazette gives some rather amusing specimens of "Lancastrianism," among the legislators of the great state of Ohio. Here are two or three of these interesting "excerpts":

There are two propositions before the Senate; the first to agree, and the second to disagree. The converse of the one is equivalent to the negative of the other.—*Senate Chase on Order.*"

We have, Mr. Speaker, been permitted to sit in the Milky Way; wandering about the galaxy, with our telescope, examining oscillating digitation from the columnar point of capricious gravitation, like lost Pleiades or wandering stars, and be happy.

Knowing that there were but very few men who could make such a speech. Mr. Taylor and his partner had not arrived. In a blacksmith shop under the counting room (which Mr. C. will recollect), some ten or fifteen bodies were dug out of the ruins."

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The latest advices from Europe report the sudden death of Ben, the Hungarian General, Turkey.

Several thousand dollars have been subscribed for the relief of the sufferers by the late explosion at New York.

The Loco has nominated Col. Thomas Seymour, for Governor of Connecticut.

Texas has sent Ex-Governor Wood to a special agent in Washington, in relation to her Territorial claims.

The reported insurrection in Servia, does not turn out to be any great affair, after all.

Norman Davis, son of Hon. Charles Davis, of Danville, was murdered by the Indians, not far from El Paso, (New Mexico,) while on his way to California. The melancholy intelligence has just been communicated by his friends, in a letter from his mess-mate, dated Nazareth, Nov. 12.

We saw a beautiful set of artificial teeth, a few days since, the manufacture of Dr. Hascall, of this village, which, we believe, cannot be easily excelled by the skill of any dentist in the country. Anything in the way of his profession, we feel safe in saying, can be promptly and handsomely executed by Dr. H., on the most favorable terms.

On the question of receiving the petition for the dissolution of the Union—introduced by Mr. Hale—Mr. Webster said,

Mr. President, I am much obliged to the member from Michigan (Mr. Cass) for the clear and forcible which he has expressed of his opinion, in which I heartily concur. I entirely concur, especially in what he says of the *right* of self-government, that there can be no *right* to self-government, without a people who are willing to sacrifice their lives for it.

I think this petition is such that it will be proper to refer to the effect of the No License Law, introduced by Mr. Hale, for the dissolution of the Union.

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